

Remarks:

The Examiner objects to the drawings because they do not show a plurality of discrete sources distributed around the periphery of the dartboard as recited in claim 12 and 16. Applicant respectfully submits that only drawings necessary to an understanding of the invention are required. See M.P.E.P. 608.02 Support for a plurality of discrete sources is given at least at specification page 2, paragraph 1002, and specification page 3, paragraph 1004 (incandescent bulbs). Given the disclosure herein, wherein examples of distributing light about the periphery are discussed and shown in the figures, one of ordinary skill in the art would be able to make and use a dartboard illumination apparatus according to the present invention with a plurality of discrete light sources distributed about the periphery of the dartboard. A drawing of such is not necessary to an understanding of the invention given the disclosure.

Replacement drawings are enclosed herewith.

Claims 17 and 18 were objected to for using the word "structure" rather than "surface." Correction has been made.

The Examiner indicated that claims 8, 11 and 15, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claims, 1 and 14. Claim 8, now dependent upon added claim 21, is believed to be allowable. With respect to rewriting claims 11 and 15, see added claims 21, and 22. Claims 2-10 are now dependent on allowable claim 21 and claim 16 and 17 are now dependent on 20. Claim 20 as now amended recites that illumination is so arranged about the periphery to provide substantially symmetrical illumination of the dartboard.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 12-14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Megson*. *Megson* discloses a dartboard illuminated from the top and from the sides but teaches away from illumination from the bottom periphery of the dartboard. (See *Megson* at page 1, lines 88-95) Claims 1 and 14 are amended to recite that illumination emanates from four quadrants of the periphery of the dartboard to provide substantially symmetric illumination of the dartboard surface without substantial glare or shadow. Claim 20 recites that the illumination is so arranged about the periphery of the dartboard as to provide substantially symmetrical illumination of a

surface of the dartboard. This is in contrast to the asymmetric illumination from three sides taught by *Megson*. Thus, *Megson* does not anticipate claims 1, 11-15, and 18-20.

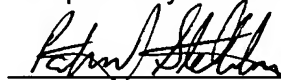
Claim 5 was rejected as being unpatentable over *Megson* in view of *Land*. *Land* discloses a flat panel with a polarizing layer that can be illuminated. Neither *Land* nor *Megson* teach or suggest a surface that protects a source of illumination of a surface of a dartboard wherein the protective surface provides a filter of a polarization of illumination, as recited in claim 5.

Claim 9, 10 and 18 were rejected as being unpatentable over *Megson* in view of *Libert*. *Libert* discloses a game board with a surface that is illuminated from underneath around the sides of the board. Transparent materials of different colors form the board surface so that an illuminated checkerboard appearance is created. (See *Libert*, Figure 1.) In *Libert*, the illumination of the board surface from the viewpoint of the user arises from the transmission of light through the transparent board surface. In contrast, in the claimed invention, illumination of the board surface from the viewpoint of the user arises from reflection of light from the opaque dartboard surface after transmission through the protective surface. Neither *Megson* or *Libert* teach or suggest this.

Conclusion

For at least these reasons, Applicant believes the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the same.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Patrick Stellitano, Reg. No. 42,169
2803 Inridge Dr., Austin, TX 78745
Tel: 512/899-8038, Fax: 512/899-9874